ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

REFORMATORY SCHOOL

AT

YERAVDA

FOR THE

YEAR 1913.

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From

N. M. PAJNIGAR, ESQUIRE, B.A.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Reformatory School;

To

THE EDUCATIONAL INSPECTOR,
Central Division, Poona.

YERAVDA REFORMATORY SCHOOL:
31st March 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Reformatory School, Yeravda, for the calendar year 1913.

Number in School.

2. (*a*) The year commenced with 164 boys, of whom 145 were in the Reformatory and the remaining 19 were employed outside on licenses under section 18 (*1*) of the Reformatory Schools Act. The number of boys admitted in the course of the year was 44. One of them was a transfer from the Jubbulpore Reformatory as he belonged to this Presidency though he had been convicted in the Central Provinces. The number discharged from the Reformatory during the same period was 63, of whom 56 had served the full period of their sentence; while 7 were ordered to be released under section 14 (*a*) owing to their having attained the age of 18 years. One boy who had been sent up a few days before the close of the preceding year had to be transferred to the Yeravda Central Prison on account of his age being over 15 years. Twelve licensed boys and 2 from the Reformatory absconded during the year. Both the latter and 8 of the former were recaptured and brought back to the School. Two boys died, one of whom was an inmate of the Reformatory and the other was from amongst the licensed juveniles. Thus at the close of the year the total number undergoing detention was 138 and 12 of these were serving outside on license. The average daily number of boys for the year of report was 131 against 145·2 of the preceding year. This was due to the discharge of a larger number (63) of boys during the year as against 43 discharged in the previous year.

(*b*) Of the 138 boys confined on the last day of the year 7 were under twelve years of age, 34 were under fourteen years, 43 under sixteen and the remaining 64 were either of or above sixteen years.

(*c*) Amongst these 138 boys, 70 *i. e.* 50·7 per cent., which is about the same percentage as in the preceding year, were other Hindus, 29 were low-castes, *i. e.* Mahárs, Mángs, Dheds etc., 24 were Mahomedans, 6 Bráhmans and 9 native Christians. The percentage of low-caste boys went down from 22·5 to 21 and that of the Mahomedans from 20·1 to 17·4. On the other hand there was an increase in the percentage of Bráhmins and native Christians. Their numbers have been steadily rising of late, being 3·9 and 2·2 in 1911, 4·2 and 3·6 in 1912 and 4·3 and 6·5 in 1913, respectively.

(*d*) The classification of the boys according to their vernacular is 61 Maráthis, 25 Gujaráthis, 21 Hindustanis, 8 Sindhis, 14 Kánarese, 8 Telugus and 1 Arabic. Under this head, the Maráthi speaking population showed a sudden jump of more than 4 per cent. over last year's figure, while there was a diminution in the Gujaráthi and Hindusthani boys of nearly 5 and 2·5 per cent. respectively.

(*e*) One hundred and twenty-nine out of the total 138 boys belonged to British territory and 9 to His Highness the Nizam's.

Admissions.

3. (*a*) The total number of admissions was 44 against 35 of the preceding year. One of the newly admitted boys was 10 years old, 4 were 11 years old, 15 were 12 years old, 10 were 13 years old and the rest 14.

(*b*) Thirty-three of them were convicted of theft, 3 of retaining stolen property, 2 of criminal breach of trust, 4 of having no ostensible means of livelihood, 1 of causing mischief, and 1 of causing death. The aggregate value in a few of the 38 offences against property was considerable, being Rs. 500 in one case, Rs. 298-8-0 in two other cases, Rs. 192-3-0 in a third and Rs. 111 in a fourth case. In 15 other cases it was below Rs. 100 but above Rs. 10, and in the remaining 18 cases less than Rs. 10.

(*c*) Thirteen boys were ordered to be detained for three years, 18 for four years, 11 for five years and the remaining 2 for six years.

(*d*) The district of Násik was our largest contributor. It sent up 6 boys to the school in the course of the year including the one received by transfer from the Jubbulpore Reformatory. The districts of Poona and Karáchi come next to Násik in having supplied 5 boys each; those of Belgaum and Bijápur contributed 4 boys each; Nagar, Thána and Secunderabad 3 each; Ahmedabad, Ratnágiri, Aurangabad and Hyderabad (Deccan) 2 each; and Dhárwár, Kaira and Surat 1 each.

(*e*) Thirty out of the 44 were first offenders and of the habituals 8 had one previous conviction, 1 had two, 4 had three and 1 four previous convictions.

(*f*) Of the 44 boys newly admitted, 3 had received education up to vernacular Standard IV, 6 could just read and write their vernacular, and the rest were all illiterate.

Conduct and Punishments.

4. The conduct of the boys was very satisfactory on the whole. Really serious offences there were none and the numbers of school offences and of the delinquents were fewer than in the preceding year, being 23 and 26 respectively in an average population of 131 boys against 32 and 39 in 1912 in a population of 145. Amongst the 23 offences 3 were of assaulting one another, 6 of removing articles by stealth, 10 of insubordination and other breaches of rules, 2 of possessing prohibited articles chiefly tobacco or *biddis*, 1 of absconding and 1 of attempt to escape at night through the roof of the sleeping room. The punishments awarded were flogging in two cases, reduction from monitorship in two others, penal diet consisting of wheat *conji* in five, and stoppage of daily marks or light caning on the hand in the remaining cases.

Discharged Juveniles.

5. (*a*) Of the 63 juveniles discharged during the year 25 had learnt agriculture, 12 carpentry, 9 blacksmith's trade, 9 book-binding and compositor's work and 8 painting and polishing. Six-monthly reports of the character and career of 41 boys out of the 63 were received, the remainder having been released in the second half of the year, so that reports regarding them had not become due. Of the 41 boys 6 were in the service of the Bombay Municipality as sweepers, cartmen etc., 20 were in private service, 3 have been reconvicted, 6 are untraced, 2 of doubtful character, 1 has joined a school and 3 are living with parents.

(*b*) The details regarding the after-career of the boys discharged in the three years preceding the year of report are given in the statement "Reformatory Schools II" appended to this report. Out of the 120 juveniles discharged in the triennium 39 were pursuing the occupations they had learnt in the school and 44 were engaged in other occupations such as service, manual labour or cart-driving; 4 were living with their parents, 3 died, 3 were reconvicted and 27 could not be traced. The percentage of boys earning an honest livelihood is 74·3, that of the untraceables 23 and of those reconvicted ·026.

Licensed Juveniles.

6. (*a*) The number of boys who were out on license on the 1st day of the year was 19, and 27 new licenses were issued during the year. Fifteen of the licensed boys were released owing to their sentence having expired, 12 absconded of whom 8 were recaptured, 6 were returned as unsatisfactory and one died from plague caught while out on work. The number remaining out on license on the last day of the year was 12, of whom 4 were employed as gardeners, 4 as factory boys, 2 as smiths, 1 as a carpenter and 1 as a tailor. One of them had been on license for more than 18 months, 5 for over six months, 3 for over three months and the rest for less than three.

(*b*) From 8 to 10 boys were employed for outdoor work and sent out by themselves to deliver articles, take messages, fetch the post and other similar work which they performed satisfactorily always and without giving any trouble or rise to complaints.

Marks and Gratuity.

7. The monthly average number of boys who earned gratuity during the year was 121. The amount of gratuity earned was Rs. 322 6-6 against Rs. 451-9-6 in the preceding year, the average earning per boy being Rs. 2-10-8.

Health and Sanitation.

8. It is pleasant to record that as in the past the health of the inmates has been good during the year. There was no epidemic of any sort although small-pox was prevalent in the táluka and plague of a bad type raged in Poona during the second half of the year. The total number of cases treated in the school-hospital was 25 against 37 in the preceding year. There were 5 cases of malarial fever, 3 of guinea-worm, 2 of pneumonia, 1 of dysentery, 1 of inflammation of the spinal cord and 13 minor ailments which include cuts, abrasions, etc. All the above cases were cured completely except one which ended fatally. This was the case of inflammation of the spinal cord regarding which as well as the cases like guinea-worm and pneumonia it may be mentioned that they are of a character that points to congenital influences or to neglect during the early years as being a predisposing cause. And it is a fact that a large percentage of the boys show on admission evidence of neglect and want of care; while these same boys attain robust health in subsequent years which is due to the attention and care bestowed upon them here. One of the boys licensed to the Maharashtra Metal Factory in the city of Poona caught the plague and was removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital where he died. The average daily number of sick in the hospital was 1·3 against 1·2 of the previous year. It is satisfactory that there was not a single case of diarrhœa during the year. The administering of 3 grains of quinine weekly as a prophylactic against malaria was continued throughout the year.

Buildings and Accommodation.

9. The new dormitories and the remaining workshops were all completed in the year. But the new cookroom still remains to be completed. With the 4 dormitories and the 4 old barracks that have been retained accommodation will be available for 175 boys in all at any one time.

Diet and Clothing.

10. No remarks are necessary on this head as there was no change in the dress or food of the inmates both having been proved to be fully suitable by the experience of so many years.

Industries.

11. The industries taught in this Reformatory are gardening, carpentry, smith's work, painting and polishing and book-binding with composing. The

total number of books bound and repaired during the year was 10,055. The number of carriages repaired and done up was 79 and that of other miscellaneous articles such as chairs, tables, etc., 199 against 78 and 154 of the preceding year respectively. The gross value of all manufactures was Rs. 3,334-14-11 which is less by nearly 50 rupees than in the previous year. The amount paid for raw material was Rs. 2,465-2-2, the amount to be deducted for depreciation of plant Rs. 151-0-1 and the amount written off on account of bad debts Rs. 127-5-0. Deducting these items from the sum realised, the net profit from manufactures was Rs. 591-7-8 against last year's Rs. 715-15-7. The number of boys engaged in the trades was 71, of whom 25 were learning carpentry, 14 smith's work, 19 painting and 13 book-binding.

(*b*) The results in gardening were better than those of the preceding year. The value of vegetables grown was Rs. 449-7-2, of which Rs. 201-9-7 worth was supplied to the School for rations and the rest sold to the public. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 175-3-6, leaving a balance on the profit side of Rs. 324-3-8. The number of boys employed in cultivation was 55.

(*c*) At the Agri-Horticultural Society's flower-show held in September last the School exhibited flowering plants such as Chrysanthemums Begonias, etc., as well as a good many varieties of Capsicums and tomatoes among the vegetables and was awarded two prizes amounting to Rs. 14, one for the Begonias and the other for the vegetables.

Maintenance Charges.

12. (*a*) The gross maintenance charges for the year amounted to Rs. 21,121-6-8 against Rs. 22,763-4-4 of the previous year, the decrease being due to the smaller number of boys throughout the year. The total profits amounted to Rs. 915-11-4, the miscellaneous receipts to Rs. 91-6-2 and the amount recoverable for the juveniles of His Highness the Nizam's Territory confined in the Reformatory to Rs. 1,256-10-4, which gives the net cost to Government for the school in the year 1913 at Rs. 18,857-10-10 as against Rs. 20,578-13-5 in 1912. The average cost per boy works out at Rs. 144 and Rs. 142 nearly per annum for the respective years.

(*b*) For the first time in my whole tenure of 14 years at this School and, for the matter of that, in the course of the 25 years of its existence as a separate institution, a burglary was committed in my office on the night of the 4th February 1913. The thieves entered the office by cutting an opening in the roof and forced open the lid of the cash-box, carrying away all the cash that was in it amounting to 250 odd rupees. All efforts of the police to find a clue to the lost property or a trace of the burglars proved to be futile at the time. But quite recently in the course of the trial of the Gujaráthi gang before the City Magistrate of Poona it has been proved that the burglary was the work of some members of the gang. The case is still proceeding.

Establishment.

13. There was no change in the strength or personnel of the school during the year except that the former office clerk Shripad Waman Gorhe was found to have committed fraudulent defalcations in the gratuity moneys entrusted to him for depositing in the boys' Savings Bank accounts and was dismissed from the service after having been made to refund the whole amount of the defalcations which was credited to the respective owners.

Education.

14. The Deputy Educational Inspector, Poona, inspected the Reformatory on 4th August 1913 and the results of the examination were declared as good. Out of the 60 boys presented under standards I to IV, 49 passed in all heads and in the Infant Standard 14 out of the 18 pupils did well. The results of the Gujarathi classes showed a decided improvement over those of the two previous years.

(*b*) Five candidates were sent up from this school for the First Grade Art Certificate Examination and four of them passed fully and were awarded the certificate.

(*c*) For the moral and religious instruction of the pupils one hour every week is specially devoted to the reading of sermons or passages from the religious books, when the masters of the different classes discourse to the boys and try to impress on their minds the importance of being dutiful and honest. The Bishop of Poona has very kindly arranged through the Roman Catholic Chaplain of Kirkee to send an Indian Catechist to impart religious instruction to the Roman Catholic boys of the school, and the latter attends every Saturday afternoon for this purpose during the hour specially set apart for it. These boys are also sent to attend the Divine Service held at the Central Lunatic Asylum every Thursday at 8 a. m. It is very desirable that a similar arrangement be made for the Hindu and Mahomedan boys by their co-religionists of the city.

Physical Training and Recreation.

15. As in the previous years, the boys continued to play cricket and other games and also practised gymnastic exercises every evening except Sundays from 4 to 5 P.M. under the supervision of the class masters. On Sunday afternoons they were taken out for long walks extending over more than two hours and on all important holidays for sight-seeing and witnessing the processions in the city.

Visits and Inspections.

16. The monthly inspections by the Visitors' Committee were held regularly according to the programme and the Annual General Meeting took place on the 16th June 1913 at which the annual report of the school for the year 1912 was considered and adopted.

Their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Willingdon did us the honour of visiting the institution on August 26th. They were received by the Honourable Mr. W. H. Sharp, Director of Public Instruction, and Sardars Nowroji Padamji, C.I.E., and Coopooswami Mudliar, Members of the Committee. Their Excellencies spent about three-quarters of an hour in going round the school and the various departments and showed great interest in the inmates and their work, and His Excellency was pleased to make a note of the visit in the Visitors' Book as follows:—"Visited this institution and was much pleased with my inspection. The boys look well-looked-after and seem to be taught useful occupations and the class rooms and dormitories are excellent. The results achieved are very good, and I should like to congratulate the Manager on the general appearance of the reformatory. Glad to see that there was only one boy in hospital." Her Excellency Lady Willingdon to show her sympathy for the unfortunate inmates of the institution was pleased to ask for a full holiday to be given to them on the next day.

This being the last report I have to submit, I would like to record my full appreciation of the assistance I have always received from and the valuable and useful service rendered to Government by my Deputy, Mr. V. A. Moghe, who has been silently performing his duties for the last eight years efficiently and to my satisfaction. He is the only member of the staff who has truly realised the spirit in which an institution of this kind should be conducted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

N. M. PAJNIGAR,

Superintendent, Yeravda Reformatory

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS.—I.

Number in the School in 1913.

Schools	1
Pupils.	
Number on the first day of the year	164
Admitted during the year	44
Recaptured during the year	10
Discharged during the year	63
Escaped during the year	14
Reconvicted during the year	3
Number on the last day of the year	138
Education on admission.	
Able to read	9
Illiterate	35
Religion.	
Hindus	105
Mahomedans	24
Christians	9
Instruction.	
Taught agriculture	79
Taught other industries	59
	Rs. a. p.
Net expenditure	18,857 10 10

N. M. PAJNIGAR,
Superintendent, Yerávda Reformatory.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS.—II.

After-conduct of boys discharged during the three year preceding the year of report.

1	Total number discharged in the three years	120
2	Number discharged who were taught agriculture	43
3	Number in entry (2) occupied in agriculture	13
4	Number who were taught other trades and handicrafts	77
5	Number in entry (4) occupied in the trades and handicrafts ...	26
6	Occupied in industries not taught them in the school	44
7	Unemployed or with friends	4
8	Reconvicted	3
9	Died	3
10	Untraceable	27

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